

Project Abstract:

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant award of **\$60,486** will be used by the Roanoke Police Department and Roanoke City Sheriff's Office as part of the "improving safety of officers and citizens" project. The Roanoke Police Department will use the grant award to provide supplementary bicycle patrols that target specific locations or crime patterns as part of a community policing effort to reduce crime. The Roanoke City Sheriff's Office will use the award to continue its security enhancement plan by installing additional security cameras and technology support equipment in the Roanoke City Jail. Personnel who will directly benefit from this improvement will include all Sheriff's office employees, daylight administrative staff, support staff, and prisoners who are incarcerated.

The Roanoke Police Department will utilize **\$36,291** of grant funding to address three project identifiers: 1) **Community Policing** – Using bicycles instead of vehicles allows officers to better address specific problems in the community and have greater interaction with citizens. 2) **Career Criminals** – A key advantage of bicycle patrol is that officers have a greater chance of preventing crime by identifying career criminals who are responsible for the majority of criminal offenses. 3) **Gangs** – Officers on bicycle patrol are normally assigned to areas of the city that suffer from increased criminal street gang activity. By increasing police presence in the neighborhoods, criminal street gangs are less likely to intimidate residents and more likely to be disrupted when they gather.

The Roanoke City Sheriff's Office will utilize **\$24,195** of grant funding to address two project identifiers: 4) **Equipment General** and 5) **Officer Safety** – The Roanoke City Sheriff's Office will use the grant funding to purchase additional building cameras as part of a larger surveillance upgrade project to improve officer safety and accountability in the Roanoke City Jail.